



U.S. Department of Justice

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **District Man Pleads Guilty to Manslaughter While Armed In November 2007 Killing in Southwest Washington**

WASHINGTON - James Paylor, 20, of Washington, D.C., pled guilty today to a charge of voluntary manslaughter while armed in connection with the November 2007 shooting death of another man in Southwest Washington, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. announced.

Paylor pled guilty in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, and will be sentenced on April 26, 2011, by the Honorable Judge Lynn Leibovitz. He faces up to 30 years in prison.

At the plea hearing, Paylor admitted that, during the evening of November 30, 2007, he saw the decedent, Darrell Shepperd, 24, walking from a store in the 1500 block of First Street SW. He walked up to Shepperd and shot him once in the stomach before fleeing. Shepperd was pronounced dead on the scene.

In announcing the guilty plea, U.S. Attorney Machen commended the efforts of those who worked on the case from the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), including Detectives William Xanten, Milton Norris, and Don Juan Monroe, along with Mobile Crime Officer Tony Nwani. He also commended Paralegal Specialist Kelly Margaret Blakeney and Victim Witness Advocate Marcey Rinker. Finally, he commended Assistant U.S. Attorney Charles W. Cobb, who investigated and prosecuted the case.

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